

App. No. 09/888,221
Amendment A
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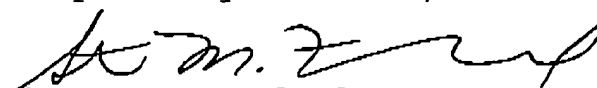
R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Five claims are pending in the application: Claims 18-22.

Claims 1-22 are subject to a restriction requirement under 35 USC § 121. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects the claims of Group IV: claims 18-22, and cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited. However, should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at (858)552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Freeland
Reg. No. 42,555

Dated: April 4, 2005

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